



**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

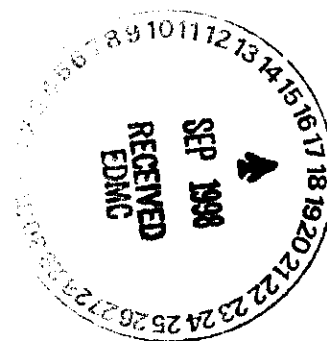
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**AUG 28 1998**

Mr. Douglas R. Sherwood  
Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352-0539

Mr. E. R. Skinnarland  
200 Area Section Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
1315 West 4th Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018



Dear Messrs. Sherwood and Skinnarland:

SUBMITTAL OF "200 AREAS REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION (ER) PROGRAM," DOE/RL-98-28, DRAFT A, IN FULFILLMENT OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER MILESTONE M-13-18

Attached are copies of the subject document for regulatory review. Five copies are provided for the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology), as are three for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The ER Program's Implementation Plan establishes a framework of the common key work planning elements for how assessment and remediation activities will be conducted for the remaining waste sites to be cleaned up by the ER Project in the 200 Areas. The Implementation Plan is intended to provide a sufficient amount of detail to ensure consistency in future 200 Area work considering the broad range of conditions present and realizing that waste site-specific details are to be addressed in Waste Group-specific work plans. The Implementation Plan is an important near-term planning document because of its focus on implementing assessment activities in the 200 Areas, consistently applying regulatory and characterization requirements, streamlining paperwork, and enhancing communication among the projects within the 200 Areas.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) would like to take this opportunity to thank both agencies for cooperatively and responsively teaming with the ER Program's 200 Area Remedial Actions Project over the past fiscal year to prepare the subject document. The teaming of EPA, Ecology, and DOE has resulted in a mutual commitment to define and implement a uniform regulatory,

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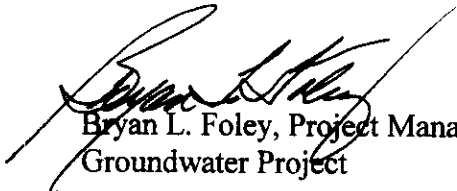
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documentation, and characterization approach to cleanup in the 200 Areas. While discussions with Ecology with respect to the content of Appendix A (Quality Assurance Project Plan) are still ongoing, it is anticipated that the issues will be resolved before issuance of Revision 0 of the document. Thus, the DOE Richland Operations Office anticipates that the attached Draft A version of the Implementation Plan meets the expectations of the regulatory organizations with regard to its technical content and format.

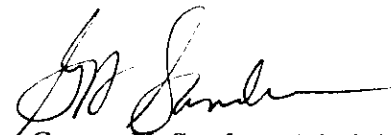
Based on previous discussions with the 200 Area Implementation Plan Team the scheduled review period for regulatory review is 15 working days from the receipt of the document. Comments would therefore be due on September 21, 1998.

If you want to discuss this matter further or require additional information, please contact Mr. Bryan L. Foley at 376-7087.

Sincerely,



Bryan L. Foley, Project Manager  
Groundwater Project



George H. Sanders, Administrator  
Hanford Tri-Party Agreement

GWP:BLF

Attachment

cc w/o attach:

J. W. Donnelly, Ecology

T. C. Post, EPA

L. C. Treichel, EM-442